

elastomeric acoustically-damping polymer matrix.

2. (Amended) The composite article of claim 1, wherein said metal body is selected from the group consisting of aluminum, aluminum base alloys, titanium, titanium base alloys, nickel, nickel base alloys, copper, copper base alloys, iron, iron base alloys, zinc, zinc base alloys, lead, lead base alloys, silver, silver base alloys, gold, gold base alloys, platinum, platinum base alloys, tantalum, and tantalum base alloys.

3. (Amended) The composite article of claim 1, wherein said [polymer] polymeric matrix is selected from the [groups] group consisting of epoxies, acrylics, hardened silicones, polyurethanes, polyimides, polyvinyls, polycarbonates, hardened natural rubbers, hardened synthetic rubbers, phenolics, polyolefins, polyamides, polyesters, fluoropolymers, poly(phenylene ether ketones), poly(phenylene ether sulfones), poly(phenylene sulfides) and melamine-formaldehyde resins.

4. (Amended) The composite article of claim 1, wherein said metal body is an aluminum base alloy [foam].

7. (Amended) The composite article of claim 1, wherein said metal body is an aluminum foam or an aluminum base alloy foam.

11. (Amended) The composite article of claim 1, wherein said [polymer] polymerized matrix is an epoxy.

17. (Amended) The composite article of claim 1, wherein said [cells] open-celled pores have a locally uniform diameter.

18. (Twice amended) The composite article of claim 17, wherein said metal [foam] body has a gradation of pore sizes in at least one direction along the metal body.

19. (Amended) [A] The composite article [according to] of claim 1, wherein said composite article is in the form of a sheet.

20. (Three Times Amended) [A] The laminate comprising a stack of sheets according to claim 19 bonded together.

21. (Three Times amended) An acoustically damping composite article, comprising a [polymeric matrix having therein a] metal [foam] body [, said metal foam] having [an open cell structure,] open-celled pores in both an upper and a lower portion of said metal body, [said metal foam being impregnated with said polymeric matrix so as] wherein each of said open-celled pores is [to] completely [penetrate said open cell structure of said foam and fill the cells thereof,] filled with a solid bulk, non-elastomeric acoustically-damping polymer matrix, and wherein said metal [foam] body has a thickness no less than 3 times the average diameter of said [cells] pores.

22. (Amended) A method of forming [a] an acoustically damping composite article comprising the steps of:

impregnating a metal foam, wherein said metal foam having [an open cell structure] open-celled pores throughout, with a resin component so as to completely penetrate each of said [open cell structure] open-celled pores of said metal foam and completely